

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-27 (canceled).

Claim 28 (amended): The spindle assembly of claim 31 ~~27~~, wherein the string carrier plate includes a string guide and a string holder.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The spindle assembly of claim 28, wherein the string holder is unitary and s-shaped.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The spindle assembly of claim 28, wherein the string holder includes a raised lip portion and a clamping portion.

Claim 31 (amended): ~~The spindle assembly of claim 27, further wherein~~ An adjustable spindle assembly, comprising:

a spindle housing;

a spindle shaft rotatably coupled to the spindle housing, wherein the spindle shaft is grooved with a plurality of locking grooves ~~groves~~;

a mow ball rotatably connected to one end of the spindle shaft;

a string carrier assembly adjustably connected to the spindle shaft by means of said grooves intermediate the spindle housing and the mow ball; further wherein the string carrier assembly includes a mounting assembly and a string carrier plate;

and further wherein the mounting assembly includes a locking slide positioned adjacent to the spindle shaft and a spring adapted to bias the locking slide into one of the locking grooves thereby fixing the mounting assembly in place with respect to the spindle shaft.

Claim 32 (amended): The spindle assembly of claim 31 26, further comprising a pulley connected to a second end of the spindle shaft.

Claims 33-40 (canceled).